



Sioux Lookout
First Nations
Health Authority

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

INFORMATION SHEET

Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

June 9, 2021

- Pfizer vaccine was approved for use in Canada for people ages 16+ and older on December 9, 2020.
- On May 5, 2021, this vaccine was approved for youth aged 12-15 as well.
- It is 95% effective at preventing symptomatic COVID-19 in most people. It is 100% effective in youth 12-15.
- It becomes most effective around 2 weeks after the second dose.
- It provides good protection against the Alpha and Beta variants of concern.
- It is given by needle, in two doses, into the muscle of the upper arm.
- The time interval between doses is 21 days up to 4 months.
- If you are 18+ years and older, this vaccine is interchangeable with the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for the second dose.
- You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. There is no live virus in it.
- Pregnant or breastfeeding women can have this vaccine.
- Common side effects include pain at the injection site, body chills, tiredness, and fever. These side effects are not harmful and go away after a day or two.
- Allergic reactions and severe side effects are very rare. Talk with your community health team if you have a history of allergies or other health conditions.

Do you have any questions? Write to us at: ACWinfo@slfhna.com

You can find a full version of this document, *Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ*, on our website at: www.slfhna.com/covid/

We are learning more each day about COVID-19 and vaccines. This is accurate as of June 9, 2021.